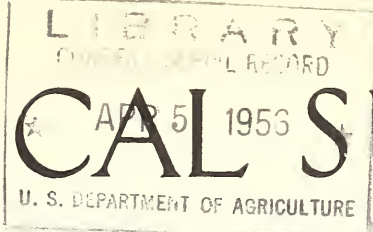


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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S.D.A.

Washington, D. C.

SS157

December 23, 1955

Total Crops Near Record

Crop Reporting Board's annual summary places the 1955 crop production close to the 1948 record high. Total this year is 105.4 percent of the 1947-49 average compared with 106 percent for 1948. Acreage in crops was the smallest since 1940; high yields per acre more than offset acreage reductions.

Yields 17% Above Average

Yield per acre is an all-time record--tops the 1947-49 average by 17 percent and tops the 1948 yield by 9 percent. Acreage harvested, 333 million acres, compares with 339 million in 1954, 344 million 1944-53 average, and 348 million in 1948.

Factors Other Than Weather

Big production occurred in the country as a whole despite weather reverses in some sections. Indicates favorable yield factors other than good weather: Improvements in crop varieties, fertilizer, expansion in irrigated acreage, better control of insects and diseases, wider use of modern power equipment, better farming.

New High Totals for Oats, Soybeans, Hay

Crops reaching new production highs this year include oats, soybeans, hay, alfalfa seed, sorghum silage, and oranges. Below average were wheat, dry peas, cowpeas, sweetpotatoes, buckwheat, sugarcane sirup, peaches, pecans and tung nuts.

Corn and Other Feed Grains

Corn production, 3,185 million bushels compares with the 1954 crop of 3,010 million and the 10-year average of 3,080 million. Yield, 39.8 bushels per acre, compares with 37.5 bushels last year and 36.4 bushels average. Oat crop of 1,576 million bushels tops the previous record of 1945 by 3 percent; compares with last year's crop of 1,497 million bushels; yield of 38.5 bushels per acre is all-time high. Barley, at 391 million bushels is more than a third larger than average and tops last year's production by 20 million bushels. Sorghum grain, at 233 million bushels compares with 216 million last year and the average crop of 135 million bushels. Feed-grain production totals 130 million tons; tops average by 11 percent and is 6 percent above 1954.

Other Important Crops--1955 Production¹

Wheat--938,159,000 bushels; 984,846,000 in '54; 1944-53 average 1,154,073,000.
Soybeans--371 million bushels; 342 million in '54; 10-year average 238 million.
Rye--29,187,000 bushels; 24,320,000 in '54; 10-year average 21,097,000.
Rice--53,420,000 bushels; 64,216,000 in '54; 10-year average 39,357,000.

Peanuts--1,610 million pounds; 1,025 million in '54; average 1,921 million.
Potatoes--382 million bushels; 356 million in '54; average 401 million.
Sweetpotatoes--38 million bushels; 30 million in '54; average 47 million.
Tobacco, All--2,256 million pounds; 2,244 million in '54; average 2,099 million.
Sugarcane--7,391,000 tons; 7,339,000 in '54; average 6,570,000.
Sugar beets--12,498,000 tons; 14,082,000 in '54; average 10,431,000.
Oranges--137 million boxes; 135 million in '54 (includes some not harvested); average 116 million.
Grapefruit--45 million boxes; 42 million in '54; average 49 million.
Lemons (Calif.)--13 million boxes; about average crop; 14 million last year.
Cranberries--1,035,000 barrels; 1,018,000 last year; average 839,000.
Pecans--96,900,000 pounds; 90,510,000 in '54; average 141,437,000.

¹For data on crops not listed see Crop Production, 1955 Annual Summary, AMS, U.S.D.A.

Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average prices received by farmers		Effective parity prices
	Oct. 15, 1955	Nov. 15, 1955	Nov. 15, 1955
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.)..... ct.	32.83	32.42	34.97
Wheat (bu.)..... dol.	1.94	1.94	2.49
Rice (100 lb.)..... dol.	4.60	4.63	5.38
Corn (bu.)..... dol.	1.14	1.09	1.81
Peanuts (lb.)..... ct.	11.8	11.7	13.5
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Butterfat in cream (lb.)..... ct.	56.9	57.2	72.8
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.)..... dol.	4.35	4.42	4.63
Wool (lb.)..... ct.	239.5	239.0	58.6
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.)..... dol.	.909	.919	1.33
Cottonseed (ton)..... dol.	43.50	44.30	70.30
Flaxseed (bu.)..... dol.	2.76	2.80	4.41
Hay, baled (ton)..... dol.	20.50	20.80	23.50
Oats (bu.)..... dol.	.591	.605	.851
Potatoes (bu.)..... dol.	.723	.829	1.44
Rye (bu.)..... dol.	.926	.897	1.66
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.)..... dol.	1.63	1.67	2.50
Soybeans (bu.)..... dol.	2.08	2.06	2.87
Sweetpotatoes (bu.)..... dol.	1.44	1.68	2.74
Oranges, on tree (box)..... dol.	1.42	1.45	2.37
Apples, for fresh use (bu.).. dol.	2.25	2.48	2.79
Beef cattle (100 lb.)..... dol.	15.30	14.10	21.10
Calves (100 lb.)..... dol.	16.80	15.70	23.10
Hogs (100 lb.)..... dol.	14.50	12.20	21.10
Lambs (100 lb.)..... dol.	17.40	17.20	23.10
Chickens, all (lb.)..... ct.	20.4	20.0	28.7
Eggs (dozen)..... ct.	42.9	43.4	45.8

¹Preliminary.

²Does not include incentive payment to bring season average return to 62 cents per pound.

Smaller Food Grains Total

The 1955 production of food grains, about 32 million tons, was the smallest since 1943. Smallest wheat crop in 12 years resulted from cuts in acreage allotments and from drought losses. The rice crop, next to the largest ever grown, was from high yields on greatly reduced acreage, 28 percent below 1954. Rye crop was above average; buckwheat, extremely small--2 million bushels compared with 5 million average.

Cotton Estimate 1% Lower

The cotton crop, estimated at 14,663,000 bales, is about 1 percent below the November estimate and compares with the 1954 crop of 13,696,000 bales and the 1944-53 average of 12,952,000 bales. Yield per acre, 416 pounds compares with 10-year average of 279 pounds. Record high yields this year in Ga., Tenn., Ala., Miss., Ark., and La.; highest in over 50 years in Okla. and Texas.

High Tobacco Yields

Despite acreage cuts, tobacco production is the third largest on record with record high yields.

Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	Jan.-Oct. 1954	Jan.-Oct. 1955
<u>Dairy Production</u>			
Milk	Bil. lb.	1114.7	1115.4
Evaporated whole milk	Mil. lb.	2,230	2,289
Dry nonfat milk solids (for human food)	Mil. lb.	1,232	1,283
Butter, creamery	Mil. lb.	1,261	1,187
Cheese, American	Mil. lb.	923	878
Ice cream	Mil. gal.	520	550
<u>Poultry Production</u>			
Eggs	Billions	159.8	161.9
Poultry meat ²	Mil. lb.	3,258	3,195
Canned poultry	Mil. lb.	147	146
Liquid egg	Mil. lb.	443.0	443.4
Dried egg (egg solids)	Mil. lb.	20.3	21.6
Frozen egg	Mil. lb.	345.6	335.0
Chicks hatched ³	Millions	1,687	1,593
Chicks placed ⁴	Millions	628	676
Poult hatched ³			
Heavy breeds	Millions	50.6	50.0
Light breeds	Millions	19.1	14.3
<u>Meat Production²</u> (dressed weight)			
Beef	Mil. lb.	10,468	10,970
Veal	Mil. lb.	1,294	1,245
Pork	Mil. lb.	6,973	7,842
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	601	625
Total red meat	Mil. lb.	19,336	20,682
<u>Slaughter²</u>			
Cattle	1,000 head	20,752	21,426
Calves	1,000 head	10,531	10,283
Hogs	1,000 head	50,449	57,696
Sheep and lambs	1,000 head	13,294	13,648

¹January-November.

²Commercial; excludes farm slaughter.

³By commercial hatcheries.

⁴13 principal producing areas.

Flue-cured, with extraordinary yields, is 14 percent larger crop than last year--average yield, 1,517 pounds per acre, topping previous record by 205 pounds.

Plentiful Seed Supplies

Six principal hay seed crops--alfalfa, red-clover, alsike-clover, sweet clover, lespedeza, and timothy--produced a total of 565 million pounds of clean seed, 45 percent larger than in 1954 and 20 percent above average. With the carryover of 101.5 million pounds, the total supply is 666.5 million pounds, 29 percent larger than in 1954 and 18 percent above average.

Non-Citrus Fruits

The 1955 season was favorable for aggregate fruit production despite the late March freezes

Statistical Series Of Interest To Agriculture

Item	1954		1955		
	Nov.	Year	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) ¹	55.6	54.7	56.9	57.3	57.9
Farm employment	7.9	8.5	10.8	10.1	7.8
Family	6.3	6.5	8.0	7.6	6.2
Hired	1.7	1.9	2.9	2.5	1.6
Index numbers (1947-49=100)					
Industrial production ²	128	125	142	143	144
Total personal income payments ³	144	142	152	153	
Weekly factory earnings ⁴	142	138	159	161	164
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker ⁴	139	135	147	148	150
Wholesale prices, all commodities ⁴	110	110	112	112	111
Farm commodities	93	96	89	87	84
Food, processed	104	105	102	100	99
Consumer price index ⁴	115	115	115	115	
Food	111	113	112	111	
Index numbers (1910-14=100)					
Prices received by farmers	242	249	235	230	225
Crops	243	243	229	224	224
Food grains	239	232	217	220	220
Feed grains and hay	199	206	174	167	164
Cotton	281	274	285	278	274
Tobacco	438	439	427	443	438
Oil bearing crops	277	279	225	227	228
Fruit	210	220	210	188	193
Vegetables for fresh market	226	221	230	223	231
Livestock and products	241	255	240	236	225
Meat animals	261	292	250	240	216
Dairy products	266	252	257	264	267
Poultry and eggs	159	176	202	195	195
Prices paid by farmers:					
All commodities	262	263	259	261	259
Used in living	272	274	272	274	273
Used in production	251	252	246	246	244
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index)	279	281	279	280	279
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted	502	510	510	518	518
Parity ratio (prices received to parity index)	87	89	84	82	81

¹Bureau of the Census.

²Federal Reserve Board.

³Department of Commerce.

⁴Bureau of Labor Statistics.

which drastically curtailed peach production in the Southern States and adverse conditions in California which curtailed production of prunes, figs and olives. The aggregate production of non-citrus fruits was 4 percent larger than in 1954 but was 2.6 percent below average.

More Vegetables For Processing

The 11 principal vegetables for commercial processing produced a total of over 6 million tons, 4 percent more than the 1954 total which was about average. Trend in yields is upward; acreage this year smallest since 1950.

Large Oilseeds Total

Oilseed crops total 19.1 million tons, a third above average and 9 percent larger than the 1954 previous record. Soybean crop, 371 million bushels and the largest ever grown, is a major part. Cottonseed production is about one-seventh above average; flaxseed, well above average, though down a little from 1954; peanut crop, above last year's short crop but below average.

Good Year For Sugar Crops

The 1955 total outturn of sugarcane and sugar beets is above average and large for the acreage planted--nearly 7 million tons of sugarcane for sugar and over 12 million tons of sugar beets. Record yields on reduced acreage.

Farm Employment Data

Farm work in many parts of the country had reached the winter stage in late November, and the 7.8 million persons at work on U. S. farms were about 2.3 million less than in late October. Decrease was slightly larger than usual. Farm wage rate (composite rate per hour) Oct. 1 was about 70 cents per hour compared with about 68 cents a year earlier.

Plentiful Hay Supplies

Hay supply (production plus carryover) is largest on record, but the supply per annual unit is only a little above average. 1955 production, 110 million tons, is nearly 5 million tons more than last year's crop and tops the average by about 8 million tons.

Fewer Spring Pigs

Farmers present intentions are to raise 2 percent fewer pigs this spring as compared with a year ago. Last fall's pig crop had increased by 12 percent.

CURRENT ESTIMATES

Cash Receipts From Farm Marketings, by States, October 1955¹

State	Livestock and products	Crops	Total
	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars
Maine	9,852	1,927	11,779
New Hampshire.....	5,242	1,189	6,431
Vermont.....	7,956	953	8,909
Massachusetts	11,191	6,240	17,431
Rhode Island.....	1,552	675	2,227
Connecticut.....	10,377	3,149	13,526
New York.....	47,367	27,065	74,432
New Jersey	20,214	10,068	30,282
Pennsylvania	55,249	12,953	68,202
North Atlantic	169,000	64,219	233,219
Ohio.....	61,402	47,057	108,459
Indiana	63,019	63,468	131,487
Illinois	88,406	107,906	196,312
Michigan	32,286	28,446	60,732
Wisconsin	75,992	11,249	87,241
East North Central....	321,105	283,126	584,231
Minnesota	75,083	49,893	124,976
Iowa.....	148,209	27,712	175,921
Missouri.....	59,709	71,284	130,993
North Dakota	19,346	79,709	99,055
South Dakota	36,887	24,898	61,785
Nebraska	72,454	33,711	106,165
Kansas	45,850	28,982	73,932
West North Central....	457,538	315,289	772,827
Delaware	6,887	2,109	8,996
Maryland.....	14,817	5,560	20,377
Virginia.....	25,534	45,919	71,453
West Virginia.....	10,327	1,999	12,326
North Carolina.....	18,939	197,729	216,668
South Carolina	8,671	37,929	46,600
Georgia	30,238	90,479	120,717
Florida	11,304	29,165	40,469
South Atlantic	126,717	410,889	537,606
Kentucky	24,146	7,973	32,119
Tennessee.....	19,854	44,720	64,574
Alabama.....	17,289	92,853	110,142
Mississippi.....	12,408	107,549	119,957
Arkansas	17,488	112,346	129,834
Louisiana.....	10,519	53,267	63,786
Oklahoma.....	31,240	35,735	66,975
Texas.....	69,966	173,874	243,840
South Central.....	202,910	628,317	831,227
Montana.....	32,279	41,596	73,875
Idaho.....	9,939	29,628	39,567
Wyoming	25,500	4,131	29,631
Colorado	32,285	15,890	48,175
New Mexico.....	23,146	13,042	36,188
Arizona	9,524	15,683	25,207
Utah.....	11,209	4,589	15,798
Nevada	3,160	486	3,646
Washington.....	16,477	56,691	73,168
Oregon	17,290	26,092	43,382
California	82,903	198,268	281,171
Western	263,712	406,096	669,808
United States	1,540,982	2,087,936	3,628,918

¹All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

Cash Receipts From Farming, United States

Source	Oct. 1955	Nov. 1955 ²
	<i>Mil. dol.</i>	<i>Mil. dol.</i>
Farm marketings and CCC loans ³	3,629	3,200
Livestock and products	1,541	1,500
Meat animals	836	
Dairy products	344	
Poultry and eggs	347	
Other	14	
Crops	2,088	1,700
Food grains	278	
Feed crops	219	
Cotton (lint and seed)	640	
Oil-bearing crops	329	
Tobacco	211	
Vegetables	159	
Fruits and tree nuts	143	
Other	109	
Government payments	15	
Total cash receipts	3,644	

¹For comparison of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

²Preliminary.

³Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Marketing Margin and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

Year and month	Retail cost ¹	Farm value ²	Marketing margin	Farmer's share
1954 average	\$ 993	\$ 426	\$ 567	43 %
1954-Oct. ³	981	404	577	41
1955-Sept. ³	984	396	588	40
Oct.	977	383	594	39

¹Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per urban wage-earner and clerical-worker family in 1952, calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

²Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing. ³Revised. For comparisons with earlier months and years see The Marketing and Transportation Situation.

Index numbers of total output, gross production of livestock and crops, by groups, and related indexes, United States¹

(1947-49 = 100)

Item	1952-54	1954	Indicated Dec. 1955 ²
Farm output	108	109	112
All livestock and products ³	115	119	122
Meat animals	116	119	124
Dairy products	105	108	109
Poultry and eggs	128	134	134
All crops ⁴	102	101	105
Feed grains	103	105	111
Hay and forage	107	108	114
Food grains	95	85	80
Vegetables	97	97	100
Fruits and nuts	105	106	107
Sugar crops	106	118	110
Cotton	106	96	103
Tobacco	108	111	112
Oil crops	108	117	129
Feed used by farm horses and mules ⁵	57	51	46
Cropland used	100	99	98
Crop production per acre ⁶	102	102	107
Animal units of breeding livestock ⁷	105	108	109
Livestock production per breeding unit ⁷	110	110	112

Prepared jointly by Agricultural Research Service and Agricultural Marketing Service.

¹For historical data and explanation of indexes, see "Changes in Farm Production and Efficiency," ARS 43-15.

²Indications for 1955 based on December 1955 "Crop Production" report and other releases of the Agricultural Estimates Division, AMS.

³Includes minor livestock products not included in the separate groups shown.

⁴Includes production of some miscellaneous crops not in separate groups shown.

⁵Hay and concentrates only. Not included in farm output.

⁶Index of crop production per acre is a ratio of total crop production to total land used for crops. It differs from the AMS index of yields per harvested acre of 28 crops.

⁷Animal units and production exclude horses and mules.

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